

## EPA Names 'Best Commuter' Companies

### AP Newswire

Intel Corp., Fannie Mae and Cisco Systems Inc. top a new listing the government plans to offer each year rating companies on the benefits they offer commuting employees.

The Environmental Protection Agency hopes to combat air pollution by encouraging more companies to compete for top spots on its "Best Workplaces for Commuters" list, compiled from Fortune 500 companies.

EPA's honor roll is top-heavy with computer and energy businesses that emphasize telecommuting. Next on the list are USAA, Sun Microsystems Inc., Oracle Corp., Advanced Micro Devices Inc., Texas Instruments Inc., Safeco and EMC Corp.

The EPA wants to encourage more companies to offer such benefits as \$30 or more a month for commuting costs, emergency rides home for parents with children and shower or locker rooms for bike riders.

About 1,070 companies with a total of 2 million employees participate in EPA voluntary's program.

Companies that make the EPA list offer at least three different types of commuter benefits to 15 percent or more of their employees, said Margo Oge, director of the agency's Office of Transportation and Air Quality.

"Through this program we can have significant environmental benefits like saving fuel and reducing pollution, greenhouse gases and congestion," she said.

Companies can deduct up to \$100 a month in commuting expenses they provide to each employee. Workers do not have to treat the benefit as income.

Rounding out EPA's top 20 are Hewlett-Packard Co., Apple Computer Inc., Devon Energy Corp., Nike, Reliant Energy Services Inc., IBM Corp., Wyeth Corp., WellPoint Health Networks Inc., Dynegy Inc. and El Paso Corp.

*On the Net: Best Workplaces for Commuters: <http://www.bwc.gov>*

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*\* This article was also feature in the following online and print media outlets:*

Atlanta Journal & Constitution  
ABC News.com  
CBS News.com (Posted on Main page, Sci-Tech)  
Raleigh News Observer  
Miami Herald, FL  
Press of Atlantic City, NJ  
Hartford Courant, CT  
The Porterville Recorder, CA  
Fort Worth Star Telegram, TX  
Fort Wayne News Sentinel, IN  
phillyburbs.com  
Philadelphia Inquirer  
Springfield-News Sun  
The Forum Newspaper (In-Forum.com), ND  
Worcester Telegram, MA  
The State, SC  
WTOP-AM, DC  
Lakeland Ledger  
Ocala Star Banner, FL  
Macon Telegraph, GA  
MLive.com, MI  
Seattle Post-Intelligencer  
YahooNews.com  
American Aberdeen News  
Times Daily, AL  
Tallahassee Democrat, FL  
Stamford Advocated, CT  
Grand Forks Herald, ND  
The Free Lance Star, VA  
Rapid City Journal, SD  
North County Times, CA  
Lebanon Daily Record  
Altus Times, OK  
Northwest Indiana Times